*ii) Distance:-*

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate.

*iii) Anticipated income:-*

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

*SUB POST OFFICES:*

In so far as Urban areas are concerned the norms for opening Post Offices are as follows:-

i) The anticipated income should not be less than the anticipated cost. At the first review, the actual income should be 5% more than the actual cost.

ii) No new post offices should be opened within 2 Kmts. of an existing Post Office (1.5 Kmts. in the cost of metropolian and other cities with a population of 20 lakh and above.

[*Translation*]

**Central Assistance for Improvement of Jail System in Maharashtra**

5024. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether that Government of Maharashtra has submitted any scheme to the Union Government for financial assistance to improve the existing system of jails in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The Government of India is implementing a Scheme for Modernisation of Prison Administration under which funds are released to the various State Governments, including the State Government of Maharashtra. The Central Government have released a sum of Rs. 120.41 lakhs over the period 1987 to 1991 for modernisation of the jails in Maharashtra on the bases of proposal received from the State Government.

[*English*]

**Demands of Andaman and Nicobar Motor Vehicles Drivers' Union**

5025. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any charter of demands in March 1991 from the Andaman and Nicobar Motor Vehicles Drivers Union, Saidpur, Portblair;

(b) if so, the details of their demands and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Motor Vehicle drivers in Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been on strike since July 15,1991;

(d) whether the Government have received complaints regarding atrocities on them by the police;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.